



**Date:** January 29, 2007  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager /s/  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer /s/  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending January 26, 2007

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This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending January 26. It is our hope that the *Focus on Results Long Beach* framework improves our ability to communicate information about the services we provide. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

### **THIS WEEK IN THE NEWS**

#### **FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **Health and Human Services**

Teams of volunteers embarked throughout Long Beach on January 25 to conduct the **2007 Homeless Count**. The biennial homeless census is a process required by the federal government for cities to receive funding for homeless and other services. The count is being tabulated, and will not be released for several months.

The second year of significant **reductions in the national cancer rate** demonstrates the benefits of prevention efforts in reducing death, disease and disability due to cancers. The Department of Health and Human Services can take credit locally for playing a major, early role in protecting the public, including workers, from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke, which has been scientifically shown to cause respiratory diseases and cancer, especially lung cancer. The City has worked with the Coalition for a Smoke Free Long Beach since the early 1990s to advocate for protective policies that included one of the first Smoke Free Indoor and Public Place Ordinances in the State of California.

#### **FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE**

##### **Harbor**

Amid strong demand for international products, nearly 7.3 million cargo containers moved through Port of Long Beach terminals in 2006 for a **fifth straight year of record-breaking cargo movement**. Port terminals moved 7.29 million 20-foot equivalent unit (TEU) in 2006 – an increase of 8.7 percent over the previous record in 2005 of 6.71 million TEUs.

##### **Community Development, Economic Development**

As part of the fourth annual Los Angeles County Technology Week, California State University at Long Beach and the City of Long Beach co-sponsored *M3+S*, a technology forum and reception **promoting technology development** in goods movement, material design, manufacturing and security on January 24. For additional information, call 570.3853.

## **AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

### **FOCUS AREA: COMMUNITY SAFETY**

#### **Police and Fire**

The Long Beach Search & Rescue Unit was certified as the newest (and only volunteer) Level II - Medium rescue resource by the *State Office of Emergency Services (OES)*. This designation qualifies the Unit to respond to mutual aid requests outside the City during large-scale disasters. The members have completed courses in rescue systems, trench rescue, confined space rescue and hazardous material response, and are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (several are paramedics). The Long Beach Search & Rescue Unit, established in 1962 as Learning for Life Explorer Post, is co-sponsored by the Long Beach Police Motor Patrol and Long Beach Firefighters' Associations.

### **FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

#### **Health and Human Services**

In recognition of the significant role it plays in emergency preparedness and disaster response, the Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross has awarded the Department of Health and Human Services with the *Halcyon Ball Good Neighbor Award*. The award recognizes the Department's efforts in keeping the community healthy through disease prevention and health promotion, enhanced workforce development, and community collaboration. The Department's annual influenza vaccine clinics, Bioterrorism Preparedness Program, community education, and Maternal and Child Health were specifically highlighted. Additionally, the Department was commended for its support in the response to the Paradise Gardens fire in December 2006.

## **Mark Your Calendars UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **FOCUS AREA: LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT**

#### **City Manager, Human Dignity Program**

Parents, teachers, students, business owners and community members are invited to join a panel and community discussion on the state of human relations in Long Beach at the Long Beach Community Forum's State of Human Relations event on **January 31**, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at Long Beach City College, Nordic Lounge, 4901 E. Carson St. Speakers will include representatives from the Police Department, Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force, Human Relations Commission, National Conference for Community and Justice and the L.A. County Deputy District Attorney Hate Crimes Unit. Call 570.6958 for more details.

### **FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE**

#### **Community Development**

The City of Long Beach will launch Black History Month at the opening of *Untold Legacies*, a gallery exhibit highlighting the results of 20 years of research conducted by the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) regarding many of Long Beach's first and most outstanding African American/Black professionals from 1900 to 2000, on **February 6**, 3:00 pm, City Hall Lobby, 333 West Ocean Blvd. The exhibit is a cooperative effort between the Black Managers Association of the City of Long Beach (BMA) and the NCNW. For additional information, call 570.6462.

**Mark Your Calendars  
UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

**FOCUS AREA: CULTURE, EDUCATION, AND LEISURE**

**Library**

Beginning **February 3**, six libraries will be expanding services one additional day per week. Opening for five days, Tuesday through Saturday will be:

- Alamitos Library, 1836 E. Third St.
- Bret Harte Library, 1595 W. Willow St.
- Brewitt Library, 4036 E. Anaheim St.
- Burnett Library, 560 E. Hill St.
- Dana Library, 3680 Atlantic Ave.

North Library, 5571 Orange Ave., will be opening for six days, Monday through Saturday.

The public is invited to an open house at each of the six libraries. Please contact the individual library for information, or call 570.7500 for a schedule.

**FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE**

**Community Development, Administrative & Financial Services**

Small businesses have the opportunity to network with City procurement officials and other public agencies and businesses during the free Diversity Outreach Networking Session on **February 6** at the Center For Working Families Community Room, 1900 Atlantic Avenue, 2nd Floor, from 9:00 to 11:30 am. For more information, call 570.6462.

**MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

**FOCUS AREA: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE**

**Community Development, Planning and Building, and Police**

Fifteen business and property owners from the Pacific Coast Highway Corridor were recently welcomed at the Pacific Coast Highway Business Corridor Revitalization Project kick-off meeting. The Project encourages business and property owners to improve the appearance of their storefronts by offering \$2,000 Commercial Improvement Rebates to address code deficiencies and facade improvements. Staff from Economic Development, Code Enforcement, Planning and Building, Redevelopment and the Long Beach Police Department West Patrol Division participated. For more information, contact [Francisco\\_Rodriguez@longbeach.gov](mailto:Francisco_Rodriguez@longbeach.gov) or 570.6035.

**FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT**

**Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Sixteen residents and business owners collected nine tons of trash, debris and large items from the area streets and alleys at a neighborhood cleanup in the MacArthur Park Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. The Anaheim Street Community Police Center Advisory Board sponsored the January 20 event. For more information, contact [Bryant\\_Ben@longbeach.gov](mailto:Bryant_Ben@longbeach.gov).

## **MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

### **FOCUS AREA: ENVIRONMENT (continued)**

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

More than nine tons of trash, approximately seven units of universal waste and five tires were removed by 26 neighborhood volunteers and youth who donated more than 104 hours toward the neighborhood cleanup effort at 1995 Caspian Avenue in the Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Bureau staff and the Madres Unidas Neighborhood Association sponsored the January 20 cleanup. For more information, contact [Gilberto Contreras@longbeach.gov](mailto:Gilberto_Contreras@longbeach.gov).

### **FOCUS AREA: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

#### **Health and Human Services**

*Healthy Active Long Beach* staff gave a poster presentation at the California Childhood Obesity Conference in Anaheim on January 23-26 highlighting the program's success with promoting healthy eating and physical activity in Long Beach.

On January 22, Health Department management and staff and other community leaders attended a briefing by a representative from the California Emergency Medical Services Authority at Community Hospital of Long Beach. The briefing provided a general overview of the State's health disaster preparedness affecting the local community.

### **FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Harbor**

The Port of Long Beach finished a key milestone in the Ocean Boulevard improvement project this week with no noticeable disruptions to commuter traffic. The Port shut down the Ocean Boulevard and Terminal Island (47) Freeway interchange from 8:00 pm Friday, January 19 to 5:00 am Monday, January 22, while crews reconnected traffic lanes to the newly reconstructed Ocean Boulevard. In advance, drivers were advised to avoid Ocean Boulevard or to take alternate routes to access Port terminals. Traffic flow the morning of January 22 was good in all directions, with no noticeable backups. The work is part of a \$65 million construction project to improve traffic flow and shorten commute times through Terminal Island. The project is expected to be completed in June 2007.

### **FOCUS AREA: NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING**

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services**

Fourteen people recently attended the monthly Neighborhood Improvement Strategy meeting at the Anaheim Street Community Police Center, and two signed up for the Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP). Participants in NLP develop the skills and networks essential to neighborhood improvement, including leadership, team building, community project planning, neighborhood problem solving, grant writing and public speaking. For more information, call 570.1010.

## **MORE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

### **FOCUS AREA: UTILITIES**

#### **Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau**

From January 15 through January 21, Bureau staff completed a total of 2,451 service calls. This total included 563 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 431 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,036 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 211 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 860 emergency phone calls that resulted in 210 emergency orders being sent out.

### **FOCUS AREA: INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Street Construction Report**

#### **Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project**

**Contact: 570-2329**

2nd Street Bridge                      One lane 24-hours closure

Estimated completion:   Early March

#### **Long Beach Gas and Oil, Replace Gas Mains & Services**

Throughout Treasure Island

Estimated completion:   Mid March

#### **Public Works, Street Improvement**

Contact: Public Works   570.5160

Long Beach Blvd.                      Between Wardlow Rd. and San Antonio Dr.

Estimated completion:   Late January

#### **Public Works, Streetscape**

Contact: 570.5160

Santa Fe Ave.                      Between Pacific Coast Hwy. and Wardlow Rd.

Estimated completion:   February

#### **Water Department, Division Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project**

**Contact: 570-2329**

Division Street                      From Bennett to Ximeno Ave

Division Street                      From Bayshore to Ximeno Ave

Estimated completion:   Late March

#### **Water Department, Cast Iron Main Replacement Project**

Contact: 570-2323

Artesia Blvd.                      Between Atlantic Ave. and Cherry Ave.

Estimated completion:   May 2007

#### **Water Department, Norwalk/Artesia Emergency Inter-tie Project**

Contact: 570-2326

Norwalk Boulevard                      Between Norwalk Blvd. & Torin St.

Estimated completion:   March 2007

GRM: KP: arc

cc:

Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager  
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager  
City Manager Department Heads  
Tom Modica, Government Affairs Manager  
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager